

NH DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURE DIRECTIVE	CHAPTER <u>Resident Programming</u> STATEMENT NUMBER <u>7.13</u>
SUBJECT: <b>INMATE MARRIAGE REQUEST PROCEDURE</b>  PROPONENT: <u>John Sanfilippo, Warden</u> <i>Name/Title</i> <u>Commissioner's Office</u> <u>271-8016</u> <i>Office Phone #</i>	EFFECTIVE DATE <u>07/01/05</u>  REVIEW DATE <u>12/01/06</u>  SUPERCEDES PPD# <u>7.13</u>  DATED <u>06/15/01</u>
ISSUING OFFICER:   <u>Stephen J. Curry, Commissioner</u>	DIRECTOR'S INITIALS _____ DATE _____  APPENDIX ATTACHED: YES _____ NO _____
REFERENCE NO: See reference section on last page of PPD.	

- I. **PURPOSE:**  
To establish policy concerning inmate marriages while confined.
- II. **APPLICABILITY:**  
To all staff involved in establishing marriages for inmates; i.e., Chaplain, Mental Health, Correctional Counselors.
- III. **POLICY:**  
It is the policy of the Department of Corrections that inmates desiring to marry while incarcerated in the Department of Corrections must have the approval of the Warden to do so.
- IV. **PROCEDURE:**
- A. An inmate desiring to marry will make an appointment with the facility's chaplain for pre-marital counseling. The Chaplain will conduct pre-marital counseling that will include the prospective spouse of the inmate.
  - B. The pre-marital counseling will consist of a discussion of the meaning of marriage and the responsibilities that go along with being married. Values are clarified and an assessment of the couple's emotional, economic and family situation is made.
  - C. After counseling, the Chaplain will inform the Warden of the inmate's request and that counseling has taken place. The Chaplain will inform the inmate of the Warden's decision.
  - D. Marriage requests may be recommended for disapproval for the following reasons:
    1. if both persons are incarcerated;
    2. if the non-inmate is not allowed to visit the inmate;
    3. if the non-inmate is a convicted felon.
  - E. Recommendations by the Chaplain and actions taken by the Warden will be in writing and made a part of the inmate's file.

- F. Inmates from NFC who have been approved to marry will be transported to NHSP/M in Concord bi-annually for the purpose of obtaining a marriage license.

REFERENCES:

Standards for the Administration of Correctional Agencies  
Second Edition Standards

Standards for Adult Correctional Institutions  
Fourth Edition Standards

Standards for Adult Community Residential Services  
Fourth Edition. Standards

Standards for Adult Probation and Parole Field Services  
Third Edition. Standards

Other

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